



Students of the International School of Aruba get a glimpse “behind the scenes” at THE NEWS

The integrated teaching system at the International School of Aruba (ISA) can result in some very interesting field trips, as was discovered by Utahna Barros’ fourth grade class on Friday morning. A study of China during “Social Studies” class resulted in the decision for the children to write their own articles and put together a newspaper about the subject, which then led them to next logical step. The staff of the THE NEWS played host to the group of eleven children and their teacher, as they learned the real day-to-day mechanics of putting together a newspaper.

Ms. Barros’ explained that various subjects are studied by such a trip, the creativity of the journalists, photographers and lay-out artists, the practical aspects of putting together and printing the paper, and also the economics of making it profitable, aside from the sociological place a newspaper has in society.

Tamara Beaujon, local editor of THE NEWS acted as host and guide for the morning, demonstrating with other staff members how they put together a daily paper. The group of nine to eleven year olds toured the Newsroom, saw how the films that eventually are made into the plates put on the presses are made; every aspect of newspaper production was revealed, from the initial writing of the article, to the final trip through the massive printing presses, and that was very impressive, indeed! A spooky interlude in the darkroom where the films are developed caused some trepidation amongst the children, but these were soon dispelled, and along with their teacher agreed that it was quite a revelation to discover how many steps and how much work it is, every single day, to produce a newspaper.

The staff of THE NEWS were happy to welcome the students onto their premises, and the children were encouraged to ask questions, something every good journalist does profusely. Perhaps this trip has now given birth to a budding reporter, or at least the consideration of a career choice that had not occurred to them before!